

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT IN AND FOR ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA,
Plaintiff,

CASE NO.: 562014CF003032A

vs.

MICHAEL BEER,
Defendant.

INTERVIEW OF MICHAEL BEER

DATE: September 30, 2014

TIME: (Not Specified)

LOCATION: Port St. Lucie Police Department
121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL

CONDUCTED
BY: DETECTIVE CHRISTOPHER DANGELO
AND
DETECTIVE STEVE REUTHER

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1 DET. DANGELO: Go ahead and have a seat there real quick.

2 MICHAEL (A): Yeap.

3 DET. DANGELO: Give me one second I'll be right back.

4 (A): You bet.

5 (A): (DEEP SIGHS).

6 DET. DANGELO: (Reenters the room with Det. Reuther.)

7 Michael Beer, Det. Reuther.

8 (A): Hi, it's nice to meet you.

9 DET. REUTHER: Nice to meet you too. Uh, I just sittin' in.

10 (A): Yeah, that's, no-no that's cool.

11 DET. REUTHER: (Indiscernible).

12 (A): No that's cool.

13 DET. REUTHER: Alright cool.

14 DET. DANGELO: I appreciate you coming in.

15 (A): No.

16 DET. DANGELO: I you know, and-and-and driving your wife and
17 your daughter here a little bit later than usual around dinner
18 time um, and on short notice.

19 (A): Uh-huh.

20 DET. DEANGELO: Um, I thank you for cooperating. Um, and I
21 know when we spoke to your wife she had a little bit of concerns
22 and I want you to be as comfortable--

23 (A): Okay.

24 DET. DANGELO: With us as possible.

25 (A): Yeah.

1 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, I don't want you to feel
2 threatened or--

3 (A): No.

4 DET. DANGELO: That's not the intention of the interview.

5 (A): I was about to say I don't think.

6 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

7 (A): No-no-no.

8 DET. DANGELO: No, not at all.

9 (A): Okay.

10 DET. DANGELO: And um, with that said at any time that you
11 feel uncomfortable.

12 (A): Um-huh.

13 DET. DANGELO: You know you can tell us to stop and you can
14 say hey, I think it's time for me to go home.

15 (A): Alright.

16 DET. DANGELO: Okay and I don't think we'll take offense to
17 that.

18 (A): No-no, your fine.

19 DET. DANGELO: At all okay. Um, I know that you relived
20 this a few times.

21 (A): Um-huh.

22 DET. DANGELO: Probably more than a few times the past
23 couple of days.

24 (A): Um-huh.

25 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, and I hate to ask ya, but I wanna

1 go through it one more time.

2 (A): Absolutely.

3 DET. DANGELO: Okay. And where I wanna start from is from
4 Sunday morning.

5 (A): Um-huh.

6 DET. DANGELO: When you guys woke up.

7 (A): Okay.

8 DET. DANGELO: Uh-kay. And-and Michael is to try to build
9 the best possible timeline of events.

10 (A): Um-huh.

11 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Cause not only does that help us, but
12 it also helps the medical examiner.

13 (A): Sure. That's fine

14 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Cause at this time we just, we don't
15 know too much.

16 (A): Okay.

17 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

18 (A): Okay.

19 DET. DANGELO: And I think it's all of jobs to find out why.

20 (A): Absolutely.

21 DET. DANGELO: Okay. So talk to me about um, Sunday
22 morning, what time did you guys get up?

23 (A): I got up, I remember getting up at 6:30, around-around
24 in that area.

25 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

1 (A): Um, only because that's, we get up when the baby gets
2 up obviously.

3 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

4 (A): And I'm pretty sure it was around 6:30.

5 DET. DANGELO: And baby being Ethan?

6 (A): Ethan.

7 DET. DANGELO: Cause he stays in there.

8 (A): Cause he stays in the crib in our bedroom.

9 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

10 (A): So it may have been quarter after six, it may have
11 been six forty five, but I wanna say around six thirty-ish.

12 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

13 (A): Um, and then because we have to get everybody for
14 church, what we try to do is we try to feed Ethan first before we
15 wake everybody up.

16 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

17 (A): And give him at least a clean diaper you know a-a
18 fresh diaper things like that. Um, I don't remember if we got
19 the girls up or if they got up by themselves or whatever um, and
20 then I know we got to go in and get [REDACTED]

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

22 (A): Um, because like I said to you he's not the kinda kid
23 that just, he-he would stay in the room all day unless you go get
24 him. He just doesn't for whatever reason, wouldn't come out of
25 his you know, like if you said to him, [REDACTED] sit in that

1 corner, he would literally sit in the corner like be a, great
2 like military like, okay wow you're a great soldier.

3 DET. DANGELO: Yeah.

4 (A): Um, but he wouldn't come out of his room. So--

5 DET DANGELO: Do you remember what time you had to go to his
6 room and-and wake him up?

7 (A): I don't because we're trying to get breakfast ready.

8 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

9 (A): Get kids you know, showered, dressed for church things
10 of that nature.

11 DET. DANGELO: When you went in his room was he awake
12 already?

13 (A): Yes.

14 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

15 (A): And he usually is, he's sit, just sitting there

I guess waiting for someone to come get him.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): uh, and I usually what I do with him is because the changing station is right there, I right away I change him, put his clothes on for the day.

DET. DANGELO: Uh Huh.

(A): And then we go get our breakfast. Uh, I know we had Oatmeal for breakfast. And then he, he kind of played around a little bit, so did everyone else. You know the brushing of the teeth, the combing of the hair, you know that kind of thing.

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): We have been having trouble with the van. And interestingly, I got the van back today and the mechanic tells me, "I am 99 percent sure, I think I told you this story.

DET. DANGELO: Yeah you told me this story.

(A): But any way.

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): So the van wouldn't start. So I said, "alright, Michelle is like why you don't take the two girls, cause the girls are older and they are both in CCD.

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): So it's kind of more important for them to get their religious education. So I took the two girls in the white car and Michelle stayed behind with the boys. Then I got home about 11 something. And like normal, we made lunch, um the kids all eat Angel Hair pasta.

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh, well, so let's, let's go back. Let's kind of build that time frame like I was talking about.

(A): Okay.

DET. DANGELO: So around what time did you leave?

(A): Maybe a quarter after 9?

DET. DANGELO: Okay, and you said were the kids playing together?

(A): Uh, periodically. Sometimes Nydia might sit down for a couple of minutes and get up because mommy needs to comb her hair. Sometimes Gabby might sit down, get up because same thing, mommy needed to comb her hair.

DET. DANGELO: When they were playing all together and when [REDACTED] woke up, did you find anything odd about his behavior, was he acting different?

(A): No. Actually, believe it or not, one of the things we were complimenting him about, and even with school, he seemed, he seemed to be breaking out of his shell some

DET. DANGELO: Uh hum.

(A): Like he was always very intro....But I mean around us, like he was still like if he did not know you he would, he, he is not going to sit there and play with you. But he was like Saturday I took him out to play with the ball in the back yard for about 20 minutes to 30 minutes..

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): It was just he and I. It was nice, he was running around and he actually smiled and I thought he might actually have a pretty smile.

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): So that you know but he would just sit and he had this one little like comfort zone on the kids little carpet that you saw in our play.

DET. DANGELO: Um Huh.

(A): And he would just sit there and almost like people watch. You know if you would go to the mall and just how people and he would do whatever. So we left, uh...

DET. DANGELO: About 9:30.

(A): Yes.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): Uh, church gets out usually a little after 11:00. We got back home around, I guess probably around 11:30.

DET. DANGELO: Right, what took place then?

(A): Lunch.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): Uh, we all had lunch. Actually, I didn't eat lunch. I had, I turned on ESPN 2 to check the (indecipherable) cause I play Fantasy Football.

DET. DANGELO: Yeah.

(A): Yeap, so I was checking....(indecipherable). Yeah exactly and then, so, but I finished up school, college on Monday, I was going on line to the University of Phoenix.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): So, I had to check a couple of things on line, and then after that I set my line up. And then everything is.....

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): ...good to go (indecipherable).

DET. DANGELO: That is like me. I am doing the same thing.

(A): So, but it was cool, everyone seemed to be having a good time. We laid the boys down I would say around noon.

DET. DANGELO: Do you remember what they had for, uh, lunch?

(A): Yeah. Angel Hair pasta.

DET. DANGELO: Okay, and was Michelle making that?

(A): Michelle made it and Michelle actually fed [REDACTED] the Angel Hair pasta. And then, um, she fed Ethan as well. So we like put them both down around noonish. And [REDACTED] is very good about going down for a nap.

DET. DANGELO: Did you put him down? Did you

(A): No.

DET. DANGELO: So that was Michelle?

(A): I'm... I think it was Michelle. Or it may have been. Or, (indecipherable) no, I think I walked him, I may have walked him in and said, "time to go night, night, baby" or something like that.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): I am not really sure now.

DET. DANGELO: Who walked him in?

(A): You would have to ask Michelle, because I....

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): Because I was so I.... on Sunday I concentrate on foot...., to be honest with you, concentrating on football that...

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): Specially that time of the day, um so, I think, I don't know, I really don't know who walked him in. I thought. I really don't know. But anyway, um usually the conversation is [REDACTED] it's time to go night, night" and he puts on a little sad face, but then he, off he goes. That type of thing.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): Um, but then, so Ethan went down as well. And I know Michelle put Ethan down.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): I know Michelle put Ethan down. And then um, usually, when, if he starts to whimper, like I told you earlier, he is my boy, I go in.

DET. DANGELO: And you are talking, speaking of Ethan?

(A): Right, speaking of Ethan, like he would always, like for some reason, he loves falling asleep on my shoulder,

DET. DANGELO: Uh, hum.

(A): Things like that. Um and that was the basically the end of both boys as far as their taking their naps. So then Michelle had mentioned taking the girls to Tutti Frutti and to Starbucks...

DET. DANGELO: Um hum.

(A): ...for their reward that they earned. Um, I said "well that's fine, you know what I am doing today, I'm watching football."

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): It's not a big deal. So she said "I will probably leave around 1:30ish." And that is apparently what time she left.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): Um, nothing really happened. I was on the couch watching football. So Ethan woke up around 2.....

DET. DANGELO: (Indecipherable)...at what point was [REDACTED] whimpering, did he get up?

(A): Oh, yes, yes. But that was when Michelle was still home.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): Yeah, he whimpered, um, and I went in to check on him. And he was just, I, sitting up and said, and I don't think he had fallen asleep yet, I think he was kind of laying on his bed, I said "[REDACTED] baby you can't get up yet, you need to take a nap." And then I went out.

DET. DANGELO: So you never actually entered inside the room to soothe him back to sleep?

(A):: No.

DET. DANGELO: Spoke with him?

(A): No. I just said, "[REDACTED]" and he laid right down, literally. He wasn't, he wasn't a need to cause as soon as I said "go back, time to take your nap" or whatever it was uh, he just put his head down.

DET. DANGELO: He don't look any different again (indecipherable)?

(A): I did not even see his face, (indecipherable) his face cause his head was, when he was sitting up his head was turned towards the wall. So I didn't even look at his face, so what I saw him lay back down.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): Um, I came back but. Michelle took out the girls. And it was somewhere around 2 o'clock maybe a little after 2, Ethan woke up from his nap. So, like I said, I was playing, you know where the couch (indecipherable).

DET. DANGELO: Uh huh.

(A): I was playing with Ethan there. And he was walking, you know, along. And I said, ooh, you stink, you gave Daddy has a little package here for me or whatever. So I picked him and that is when I walked into the bedroom.

DET. DANGELO: Okay.

(A): I saw [REDACTED] in the floor.

DET. DANGELO: Right around what time do you....?

(A): It was like maybe a quarter after 2.

DET. DANGELO: A quarter after 2 that you walked into the bedroom?

(A): Quarter after two, maybe 20 after 2 something I guess somewhere around in that area. Um, I said, I heard him whimper, but I didn't think anything of it.

DET. DANGELO: [REDACTED]

(A): Ethan, oh, oh. I am sorry, no [REDACTED] ye [REDACTED] Yes, I'm sorry. I heard [REDACTED] whimper.

DET. DANGELO: Was that prior to you entering into the bedroom?

(A): No, no, no, this is when I entered the bedroom. And I said to him...

16 (A): [REDACTED] baby, I said go play daddy'll change your
17 diaper in a little bit. Let me finish with Ethan.

18 DET. DANGELO: Where was [REDACTED] the first, well-well when
19 you initially walked into the bedroom your holding Ethan, where
20 was Trysten?

21 (A): [REDACTED] was on the side, like I showed you at-at the
22 house, he was on the side of the bed maybe a foot length from the
23 bed.

24 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

25 (A): Um, but I didn't think anything of it I was just

1 waiting for him to go get up. So I didn't pay attention to him, I
2 was just paying attention to Ethan chang--

3 DET. DANGELO: You find that odd that he was laying on-on
4 the floor?

5 (A): I did, but I thought he'd maybe fallen. So that's why
6 I said to him, I said [REDACTED] get up your nap time is over now.

7 DET. DANGELO: You didn't get a look at his face at that
8 point?

9 (A): I didn't-I didn't, I was solely focused on Ethan
10 trying to get his--

11 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

12 (A): Diaper changed because I knew if I got Ethan's diaper
13 changed then I could get [REDACTED] diaper changed then.

14 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

15 (A): [REDACTED] would kinda self regulate himself so to speak
16 as far as..

17 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

18 (A): Like as far as playing. Um, but when after I changed
19 his diaper I saw him back still laying there and that's when I
20 saw his lips.

21 DET. DANGELO: Did you, well did you completely change
22 Ethan's diaper?

23 (A): Yes, I--

24 DET. DANGELO: How-how long do you think that was by the
25 time you completed the diaper to going back and looking at Ethan?

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1 (A): A minute and half maybe.

2 DET. DANGELO: [REDACTED] I mean.

3 (A): In fact it wasn't that long. It was about a minute
4 and a half.

5 DET. DANGELO: So you changed the diaper, you turn and you
6 see Trysten.

7 (A): I turned and I still saw him laying there.

8 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

9 (A): And then I that's when I, like I said that's when I
10 saw the lips and that's when I freaked out so I-I that's when I
11 put Ethan down in the-the jump-a-roo and I came back in.

12 DET. DANGELO: Inside-inside that bedroom?

13 (A): No-no-no. The one in the um, in the front by the
14 entertainment unit.

15 DET. DANGELO: So [REDACTED] was still on the ground?

16 (A): So yeap.

17 DET. DANGELO: In the room?

18 (A): And that's what, yeap and I ran, that's when I ran
19 back and I got [REDACTED] I called Michelle and I'm like get home,
20 get home quick whatever and that's when I called 9.

21 DET. DANGELO: Did you ever make contact with Michelle?

22 (A): No. Nope. Um, and then I called uh, 9-1-1.

23 DET. DANGELO: When you picked up [REDACTED]

24 (A): Um-huh.

25 DET. DANGELO: What, prior to him picking up and you noticed

1 that he was there and it was just you and him, did you notice any
2 bleeding from the mouth?

3 (A): No that's what uh, Butterworth was ask, Detective
4 Butterworth. No there was nothing from the mouth his lips still
5 had some redness from, but again because he.

6 DET. DANGELO: From the cracks and the blisters?

7 (A): Bite, biting them and all, all the time. So that was-

8 DET. DANGELO: Nothing from his nose?

9 (A): Nothing from his--

10 DET. DANGELO: His ears?

11 (A): Nothing-nothing from the ears or anything of that
12 nature, no.

13 DET. DANGELO: Was there any type of liquid at all? That
14 you noticed?

15 (A): He just may have dumped, like sno-you know like snot
16 or whatever.

17 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

18 (A): But I didn't really not-I wasn't even focused on that.

19 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

20 (A): My sole thing was calling 9-1-1 and seeing what was
21 going on. And I just kept screaming [REDACTED] hold on baby, hold
22 on baby and 9-1-1 was on the other end and she was like "Sir, I
23 need you to calm down, I need you-", I said send 'em to me, that
24 was the first thing I said was [REDACTED] I
25 need help, I need an ambulance, I need, something to that effect.

1 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

2 (A): Um, because I knew that you know, it wasn't good.

3 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

4 (A): So that's what scared me.

5 DET. DANGELO: Was he unresponsive, completely to you?

6 (A): Well he dunnit, yeah he's not, he wasn't very
7 talkative.

8 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

9 (A): Any, in general anyway.

10 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

11 (A): Um, but he-he wasn't whimpering anymore. But I could
12 still, she ask me, one of the questions she (Indiscernible) "Is
13 he breathing?" I said yes, I said because he's still breathing.
14 She goes "Okay, sir we've got the paramedics coming." Again,
15 something to that effect I think.

16 DET. DANGELO: Did you try to perform CPR at all?

17 (A): I didn't. I didn't even think about it. She, cause
18 she told me she said, no because she mentioned if he's breathing
19 don't do CPR.

20 DET. DANGELO: Okay. That's what 9-1-1 was telling you?

21 (A): Yes.

22 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

23 (A): Um, but she did tell me to take him outside which is
24 what I did. And when I took him outside, that's when Michelle
25 was pulling up.

1 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

2 (A): Um, she got out real quick she saw that it wasn't you
3 know, whatever she thought was.

4 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

5 (A): Um, and I told the girls to go inside and take care of
6 Ethan.

7 DET. DANGELO: What took place from the transfer of [REDACTED]
8 from you to Michelle? Do you remember?

9 (A): I was just outside, it was literally me putting him
10 down.

11 DET. DANGELO: Did she--

12 (A): She grabbed his you know, she grabbed him and.

13 DET. DANGELO: Did she try to perform CPR?

14 (A): She did a little bit um, but same thing I told her I
15 said Michelle it's not cause uh, 9-1-1 reiterated don't do CPR,
16 because we were, he was breathing.

17 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

18 (A): Um, but I think Michelle was only there maybe a couple
19 of minutes when the paramedics actually showed up.

20 DET. DANGELO: What took place next?

21 (A): They did whatever they had to do.

22 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh..

23 (A): Um, and then they told me better you come, you gonna
24 come with us? And Michelle said yeah, you go um, and then she
25 stayed behind with the girls. And that's when I went

1 (Indiscernible).

2 DET. DANGELO: And so you went in with the?

3 (A): I went up front and.

4 DET. DANGELO: Okay. When you get to the um, Tradition.

5 (A): Right.

6 DET. DANGELO: Medical center.

7 (A): Um-huh.

8 DET. DANGELO: What took place there? What-what was going
9 on?

10 (A): Um, there was just like a whole team of, they let us
11 in through the emerg, the emergency room and there was like a
12 whole team uh, there was a doctor and they-they whatever again,
13 whatever they-they were doing um, and then I kept hearing 'em use
14 different terms um, and he had mentioned something possible liv--
15 I-I just kept asking questions and he said something possible
16 liver, and then he goes possible um, contagious, so it was a lot
17 of just you know, a lot of people really trying to focus their
18 attention on.

19 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

20 (A): [REDACTED] as it should've been.

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

22 (A): Um, but it was just a lot of (Indiscernible) and-and
23 to be honest with you I was crying a lot as well just because of
24 the situation.

25 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

1 (A): So.

2 DET. DANGELO: Was that prior to Michelle arrived and
3 biological mother and her family?

4 (A): Yeah. Michelle didn't make it until much later.

5 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

6 (A): Yeah.

7 DET. DANGELO: Uh, so at that point there was not definitive
8 reason why you, why [REDACTED] was even there. There was nothing
9 that they were telling you that was--

10 (A): No they were using some terms.

11 DET. DANGELO: What was wrong?

12 (A): Well no and he, but he had kept you know pumping
13 fluids to, put some fluids in him and things of that. Not just
14 your typical I.V. um, and-and just things of that nature.

15 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

16 (A): So.

17 DET. DANGELO: Um, talk to me about when the family and
18 Michelle arrived.

19 (A): Okay. Well Michelle arrived at another entrance.

20 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

21 (A): So I-I didn't see when they arrived.

22 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

23 (A): I saw, well I didn't see them, but when mom and like
24 grandmom and them came you know, they first thing did looked up
25 was [REDACTED] and mom kinda like you know.

1 DET. DANGELO: Bi-biological mom?

2 (A): Yeah. Kinda like freaked out, which is
3 understandable.

4 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

5 (A): Um, and we just started saying prayers you know they,
6 Our Father type of thing.

7 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

8 (A): The Rosary you know, praying the Rosary type of thing.
9 Um, and then there was a whole bunch of other people that, their
10 relatives like aunts and uncles and things like that that came
11 over.

12 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

13 (A): As well so.

14 DET. DANGELO: Did you stay with the family?

15 (A): Yes.

16 DET. DANGELO: Head off on your own?

17 (A): Um-huh. Um-huh. At different times I just went, when
18 I realized that Michelle was there, I went and checked on
19 Michelle because we didn't want the kids to see anything like
20 that.

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

22 (A): Um, but yeah I stayed with the family for the most
23 part.

24 DET. DANGELO: Uh-kay. Um--

25 (A): In the room with [REDACTED]

1 DET. DANGELO: Did you ever get a chance to um, speak with
2 Michelle at all while you were at the hospital? To kinda just--

3 (A): Well we all did at the um, in the chapel when we were
4 going to explain to the girls.

5 DET. DANGELO: What took place?

6 (A): What had taken place.

7 DET. DANGELO: How did that go over and what-what was said
8 there?

9 (A): Um, they actually did it, they gave Michelle and I,
10 Michelle and I went back to the room, they said so we could have
11 a private moment with [REDACTED]

12 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

13 (A): Um, the family thought that would be just how you-you
14 you know--

15 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

16 (A): You would have the biological parents.

17 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

18 (A): You know a private moment um, they gave us, Michelle
19 and I, a private moment and that's when they were telling the
20 girls.

21 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

22 (A): Um, they did tell the girls before we left, but and
23 they were crying, but it was like for the most part we were out
24 of the room after the initial okay this is what happened with
25 [REDACTED] and that type of thing.

1 DET. DANGELO: When that was all said and done uh, where'd
2 you guys go from there? Did you guys leave together?

3 (A): The family?

4 DET. DANGELO: Yeah.

5 (A): No. We--

6 DET. DANGELO: They went their separate ways?

7 (A): Yeah. We actually, we left the hospital around ten-
8 ish I guess.

9 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

10 (A): Um, and they were still there. I guess mom was trying
11 to do things you know that Butterfield had told her she couldn't.
12 Like as far as touching him the body and removing. I, from what
13 I-I think.

14 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

15 (A): But I know they left, but um, Liz, grandma or mema,
16 said that they didn't leave much after us. Now I don't know what
17 time because we were already gone. But Michelle, Gabby and I um,
18 Nydia.

19 DET. DANGELO: Left for the house?

20 (A): And yeah, left together.

21 DET. DANGELO: Was there any type of conversation in the-in
22 the car on the way home?

23 (A): I'm sure yeah, usually is it just you know, um.

24 DET. DANGELO: Do you recall anything?

25 (A): I really don't.

1 DET. DANGELO: Spoken?

2 (A): I was so numb to the whole everything, I really
3 couldn't even tell ya.

4 DET. DANGELO: Um.

5 (A): I know we've talked about taking off the whole week
6 you know.

7 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

8 (A): But I don't even, I couldn't even really couldn't even
9 tell ya.

10 DET. DANGELO: No questions from Michelle?

11 (A): Um.

12 DET. DANGELO: As to what happened? How it happened?

13 (A): Not that I'm aware of no.

14 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Did-did you ever um, explain to her?

15 (A): Yeah.

16 DET. DANGELO: The-the nature of his injuries?

17 (A): Yeah. She's heard it, well she's heard it probably
18 fifty times.

19 DET. DANGELO: Well just you two alone? Did you guys talk
20 about--

21 (A): We--

22 DET. DANGELO: it. Have a chance to-to speak about it?

23 (A): Yeah a couple times, but not really in depth other
24 than the fact that you know, we lost our son.

25 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

1 (A): And that's how we feel you know um.

2 DET. DANGELO: When um, when the children are playin'.

3 (A): Um-huh.

4 DET. DANGELO: Has there ever been an incident where um,
5 they argued, they pushed each other, um?

6 (A): Um, not push, but-but Gabby and-and-and Nydia would
7 argue all the time you know, more like a sibling rivalry type a
8 thing.

9 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

10 (A): Especially because Gabby's new to being, having, when
11 we did this we said we weren't going to take older kids.

12 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

13 (A): Um, for that reason and um, so they would just argue
14 you know, Nydia would do something, Gabby would do something back
15 and forth and everything but not-but not.

16 DET. DANGELO: There was never any--

17 (A): No!

18 DET. DANGELO: There was never any--

19 (A): No!

20 DET. DANGELO: Punching, kicking.

21 (A): Oh, no-no-no-no.

22 DET. DANGELO: Anything of forceful--

23 (A): No-no-no.

24 DET. DANGELO: (Indiscernible).

25 (A): Not at all.

1 DET. DANGELO: None?

2 (A): Not at all.

3 DET. DANGELO: That day when they were playing together um,
4 was there any type of that going on? Any arguing between the
5 children when they were playing by themselves?

6 (A): No-no, not that I'm aware of.

7 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

8 (A): Again, because I'm trying to get ready for church as
9 well, so no not that I'm aware of. Um, we would tell [REDACTED] he
10 has to speak up cause Ethan would sometimes just try to stand up,
11 would pull him by his hair (Laughing).

12 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

13 (A): And stuff like that just you know because he's
14 grabbing whatever he can to.

15 DET. DANGELO: Right.

16 (A): Lift himself up.

17 DET. DANGELO: Right.

18 (A): But he's nine months old.

19 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh. Um, and throughout the day that you
20 can recall um, normal Sunday for [REDACTED]

21 (A): Yeah. Matter of fact Michelle said oh, he was very
22 happy.

23 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

24 (A): You know while we were at church. Um, supposedly he
25 helped her with the laundry, he pushed the basket--

1 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

2 (A): Back in things of that nature. That's what I'm
3 saying, he was actually opening up as far as establishing you
4 know, a comfort because like I've said all along you know, when
5 you're two years old, if you've been bounced from place, to
6 place, to place.

7 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

8 (A): You know, you're gonna not open up to people either.

9 DET. DANGELO: Right. But nothing that would spark your
10 interest that a light bulb 'ill go off and go.

11 (A): No-no.

12 DET. DANGELO: It doesn't look, it doesn't seem.

13 (A): No.

14 DET. DANGELO: Right today.

15 (A): No.

16 DET. DANGELO: It doesn't appear.

17 (A): No-no.

18 DET. DANGELO: And he wasn't complaining about anything that
19 was bothering him?

20 (A): No. As a matter of fact--

21 DET. DANGELO: And I know he-he, his speech wasn't well.

22 (A): Right.

23 DET. DANGELO: But nothing--

24 (A): No.

25 DET. DANGELO: No sounds of moaning, groaning, pointing to

1 different parts of his body that something--

2 (A): No, not with me.

3 DET. DANGELO: Maybe bothering him?

4 (A): Not with me. He um, because here's the thing, if you
5 said to him, [REDACTED] are you happy? He would say "happy." He
6 wouldn't say "Yes, I'm happy." He would say "happy." Then you
7 could, the very next sentence could be, [REDACTED] are you sad?"
8 and he would say "sad".

9 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

10 (A): And so it-it was and it was always one word.

11 DET. DANGELO: Right.

12 (A): So.

13 DET. DANGELO: Um, when uh, when Michelle left for the day
14 um, how was her demeanor when she left? (Indiscernible)

15 (A): Just you know very relaxed type of you know, typical
16 like I'm taking the girls and--

17 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

18 (A): Doing our thing.

19 DET. DANGELO: Um--

20 (A): Which is very typical cause she would always take care
21 of the girls um, and I would take care of the boys. Meaning as
22 far you know, because obviously when their older I'm not seeing
23 them taking showers and I'm not-I'm not doing their hair.

24 DET. DANGELO: Sure.

25 (A): And all of that stuff type of thing. Um, Ethan we

1 kinda split because some nights I would give him a bath, some
2 nights Michelle would give him a bath, things of that nature.
3 Same thing with [REDACTED] sometimes Michelle would give him a
4 bath, sometimes I would give him a bath, things of that nature,
5 but.

6 DET. DANGELO: When you picked up [REDACTED] um, do you notice
7 anything in the surrounding area, on the floor? Uh--

8 (A): No, but I didn't look either.

9 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

10 (A): You know, I mean my focus was--

11 DET. DANGELO: Was just on [REDACTED]

12 (A): On [REDACTED] and 9-1-1.

13 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, talk to me about, a little bit
14 about um, how you discipline.

15 (A): The--

16 DET. DANGELO: As a whole.

17 (A): Oh.

18 DET. DANGELO: Your children..

19 (A): Well it's same as (Indiscernible).

20 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

21 (A): We try to redirect them if we can.

22 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

23 (A): And then we use the time out method. So, we'll say
24 okay, it's a minute per age. So if [REDACTED] needs to go in the
25 time out, we, he would be in there for two minutes. If Gabby

1 needed to go in time out, she would be in there for eight minutes
2 or almost nine now. If Nydia needed to go in time out, she would
3 be in six minutes. And that's how we--

4 DET. DANGELO: Redirect, time out--

5 (A): Um-huh.

6 DET. DANGELO: Time of age.

7 (A): Yeah.

8 DET. DANGELO: And then speak with them afterwards.

9 (A): Afterwards, let 'em know what's going on.

10 DET. DANGELO: Have you ever treated the kids any different?

11 (A): Never. Nope.

12 DET. DANGELO: Same across the board?

13 (A): Same across the board absolutely. And that's not even
14 just with them, that's with other foster kids that we've had in
15 our building.

16 DET. DANGELO: Through, through the entire time.

17 (A): That is correct.

18 DET. REUTHER: Um, sorry, not to cut you off.

19 DET. DANGELO: No.

20 DET. REUTHER: How was [REDACTED] before uh, Michelle left and
21 then how was he afterwards? I know that's two-two questions, but
22 how was he--

23 (A): Well, Michelle, before he left he was sleeping.

24 DET. REUTHER: He was sleeping?

25 (A): Yeah, he was taking his nap.

1 DET. REUTHER: Yeah-yeah-yeah. And then he whimpered while
2 she's still there? Right?

3 (A): He what?

4 DET. REUTHER: He whimpered? You said he whimpered.

5 (A): What? Oh when she was still there, yeah, no he cry,
6 he was like crying, yeah when he was still there. And that's
7 when like I said either her or I, but I think, I don't even know
8 what, but one of us went in, it's usually me so that's why I'm
9 thinking it was me that and I just went in and I said [REDACTED]

10 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

11 (A): And I'm pretty sure, I went Trysten take your nap.
12 But he wasn't, he was looking at the wall.

13 DET. REUTHER: Does it ever take more than that, just more
14 than just talking to him to get him to go--

15 (A): No.

16 DET. REUTHER: Like to sleep or?

17 (A): He's a very easy kid. He's a very easy kid.

18 DET. REUTHER: Alright. Did he wake up at any point after
19 Michelle was gone?

20 (A): No. Nope.

21 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

22 (A): Um, it wasn't until like I said when Ethan-Ethan woke
23 up first, which Ethan usually takes a lon, a shorter nap even
24 though he's younger.

25 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

1 (A): Ethan's naps aren't long, cause he takes a nap in the
2 morning usually a ten minute nap in the afternoon. Where as
3 [REDACTED] just takes the one nap in the afternoon.

4 DET. DANGELO: Regarding his medical history.

5 (A): Um-huh.

6 DET. DANGELO: Were you guys provided anything at all back
7 in--

8 (A): Uh.

9 DET. DANGELO: July when he first came to your house?

10 (A): Well we had the green book.

11 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

12 (A): Um, I don't read the green books, Michelle does.

13 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

14 (A): Um.

15 DET. DANGELO: What were some of the things that you knew of
16 his uh, medical history?

17 (A): I knew he had asthma.

18 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

19 (A): I knew he had um, the tubes put in his ear.

20 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

21 (A): Um, and eczema runs in their family.

22 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

23 (A): But I don't think he had the eczema, I think it was
24 just Nydia and Ethan.

25 DET. DANGELO: Any known medications that he was taking

1 right now?

2 (A): Well the amoxicillin.

3 DET. DANGELO: Besides the amoxicillin for that, is he on
4 any regular type of medication?

5 (A): No. We um, all of the kids we would treat them, we
6 had uh, the nebulizers at home.

7 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

8 (A): But that was on a as needed-as needed basis.

9 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, and he's up to date on all his
10 shots?

11 (A): Yeah. Yeap.

12 DET. DANGELO: Medical records?

13 (A): Yeap.

14 DET. DANGELO: Um, been taken to all his regular pediatric
15 visits--

16 (A): Um-huh.

17 DET. DANGELO: In a timely manner?

18 (A): Yeap. I just took, a matter of fact I'd just taken
19 him um, he had a to get his tube stuff checked on September 10th.
20 He had to get you know, I guess to make sure that they were
21 still--

22 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

23 (A): Doing well or whatever um, and that was with Doctor
24 Guttin, Guttan or whatever over on U.S. One. Um--

25 DET. DANGELO: And you said uh, um prior to, previously that

1 um, he's definitely not an aggressive type boy so.

2 (A): No-no-no.

3 DET. DANGELO: He's never really jumping on the bed--

4 (A): No.

5 DET. DANGELO: Jumping on the (Indiscernible).

6 (A): Not with us anyway.

7 DET. DANGELO: He's not climbing things in the house?

8 (A): Not with us, I mean he plays, but he plays sitting
9 down.

10 DET. DANGELO: Well you know try to you know, you ever saw
11 him be a daredevil? He's not climbing on the couch jumping
12 around.

13 (A): No! As a matter of fact, like Ethan is. Ethan if you
14 know, how you could talk to a kid or whatever.

15 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

16 (A): [REDACTED] not like that at all. Not at all.

17 DET. DANGELO: And we also spoke about his equilibrium
18 sometimes he fell.

19 (A): Yes, that was a concern. That was a big concern and I
20 know Ashley, the caseworker.

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

22 (A): Was working on some referrals for us.

23 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Talk to me about the times he fell.
24 We talked a couple times.

25 (A): Well some of 'em were just general, but some 'em were

1 hard where like you'll be walk, literally walking or not even
2 you, you-you could just be sittin' on the couch watching him walk
3 and all of a sudden "BAM" there goes [REDACTED] Like [REDACTED] what
4 happened baby?

5 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

6 (A): You know.

7 DET. DANGELO: Almost like a clumsy fall?

8 (A): Yeah!

9 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Kinda doesn't have his bal-still
10 almost in the process of gaining his balance, learning how to
11 walk.

12 (A): I guess right. And what concerned us was when we got
13 him, and actually I was the one that noticed it, he has, he had
14 webbed feet.

15 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

16 (A): Two toes that were webbed together. Um, but then we
17 didn't know if that along with the tubes and everything, if that
18 was what was causing him to fall.

19 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

20 (A): Because the doctor said well webbed feet wouldn't
21 really cause him to fall.

22 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

23 (A): But, if it's a-a series of things, that's where we
24 wanted to get checked out by a specialist.

25 DET. DANGELO: But as you know, there was no neurological?

1 (A): To our knowledge, I don't-I don't know, because it
2 seems like from what we're hearing now some more medical things
3 may be there that maybe the biological family wasn't completely
4 truthful, or not that they weren't truthful I-I guess for lack of
5 a better term, withheld.

6 DET. DANGELO: What were some of those things that--

7 (A): Well like the-the one thing that caught our attention
8 was she told me in the hospital, and she had never revealed this
9 before, she meaning grandma and great grandma.

10 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

11 (A): Um, that when [REDACTED] was pregnant with [REDACTED] that she
12 gave birth in July, but that May her whatever doctor, the female
13 doctor that she was seeing, told her that [REDACTED] may have um, a
14 hole in his head.

15 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

16 (A): Or in his brain or whatever and cause mental, we
17 never--

18 DET. DANGELO: There was never follow up on it?

19 (A): Actually I-I.

20 DET. DANGELO: Never found out it was true?

21 (A): I guess yes, because that was not even in the green
22 book. As a matter of fact, Donnie Sue who deals with placement--

23 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

24 (A): When she and I were talking, she goes well that needs
25 to be in the green book. I said but it wouldn't be if it was

1 withheld. Just like the whole thing with the um, birth
2 certificates.

3 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

4 (A): I asked grandma, do-do you know where Ethan's birth
5 certificate happens to be? She goes I have all three kids, she
6 goes and nobody's getting them. And I said, I-I don't need it I
7 just, at least I know that it's there because we picked him up
8 from the hospital but we never got a birth certificate.

9 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

10 (A): So I found that kind of odd.

11 DET. DANGELO: Um, Hep C, when did that come in the picture?

12 (A): Back in uh, March.

13 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

14 (A): We, it was during a visit at the park. We used to go
15 to Whispering Pines Park. Um, and mom said, mom had revealed
16 that she had Hep C and I guess grandmom, I don't know if great
17 grandmom does, but I think, I know grandmom said she has it as
18 well.

19 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

20 (A): So right away we took Ethan in to get him checked out.
21 Um, and they said that came back negative and they said well we
22 don't have to check him again until he's eighteen months, but um,
23 to our knowledge that was for [REDACTED] and Nydia that was done by
24 the other foster home.

25 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

1 (A): And those, they also came back as being negative.

2 DET. DANGELO: Okay. But other than that, there was nothing
3 else that the family disclosed to you regarding--

4 (A): No.

5 DET. DANGELO: Any type of medical--

6 (A): Nope.

7 DET. DANGELO: conditions that (Indiscernible).

8 (A): From that stand point they weren't open with us.

9 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

10 (A): Um, for whatever--

11 DET. DANGELO: You think they were hiding anything regarding
12 his medical history? Because you said you had a pretty open
13 relationship with them. I

14 (A): Yeah, I don't know-know necessarily if they were
15 hiding anything.

16 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

17 (A): Maybe it's like, if you ever work with somebody, like
18 let's say for example, we were all going for a promotion and you
19 had a little bit of information that oh, in the interview for
20 this promotion if I don't tell the other two guys--

21 DET. REUTHER: (Indiscernible).

22 (A): That maybe, right, I can, so maybe I don't know, maybe
23 that's their thinking between not you know, because it wasn't
24 until recent when the kids came to us that they were uh, they
25 were originally in denial. They thought all along that they were

1 giving the kids back, it was gonna be a quick you know, very
2 quick process.

3 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

4 (A): And you know, why aren't, why don't we have the kids?
5 They, like they don't, they weren't seeing the work that they
6 needed to do as a unit.

7 DET. DANGELO: To get done?

8 (A): Right.

9 DET. DANGELO: Um, besides time out and uh, redirection have
10 you ever spanked any of the kids?

11 (A): No, because I never even spanked Gabby. Um, what
12 we're trying, what we were trying to do with Ethan well or with
13 [REDACTED] was like, he didn't wanna clean up after himself. So
14 Michelle was showing me how to do like, put my hand over his
15 hand.

16 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

17 (A): To-to have him pick up you know, cars or-or whatever
18 it was.

19 DET. DANGELO: Was there any, based on his behavior was
20 there any time that you would ever get mad at [REDACTED]? Out of
21 the ordinary?

22 (A): Out of the ordinary?

23 DET. DANGELO: Yeah. Be upset with him because he just
24 wasn't listening?

25 (A): Yeah. I mean just like I would with Gabby, I you

1 know, but that's when I would use like my daddy voice, like
2 "Gabby I said you need to," you know and I put a little bit more
3 bass into it.

4 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

5 (A): But and I'd-I'd--

6 DET. DANGELO: And he redirected pretty quick at that point?

7 (A): Very quick yeah. And the same with Gabby, and the
8 same with Nydia and the same with well Ethan so.

9 DET. DANGELO: Okay. (Speaking to Det. Reuther) Do-do you
10 have anything?

11 DET. REUTHER: It just never, there was never any time where
12 he was inconsolable or-or any issues, I mean wh-wh-what did he
13 cry about? Wh-what were his issues?

14 (A): He would just crying, like a sad face, I don't think
15 he--

16 DET. REUTHER: Sulk?

17 (A): No-no um, I don't think he had issues so to speak.

18 DET. REUTHER: Um-kay.

19 (A): You know he just seemed always very sad.

20 DET. REUTEHR: Every, well every two year old's got
21 something that'll set them off cause their just going through--

22 (A): Now if you told him night-night, like okay [REDACTED]
23 it's time to go night-night.

24 DET. REUTHER: Yeah.

25 (A): Yeah. That kind, then he would you know, kinda--

1 DET. REUTHER: What would happen?

2 (A): Well he would just and-and Michelle would say "It's
3 okay baby." You know that type of thing, but.

4 DET. REUTHER: And then he would get over--

5 (A): Not--

6 DET. REUTHER: It or?

7 (A): Yeah, he would get over it.

8 DET. REUTHER: What's the longest he's ever cried for ya?

9 (A): A few minutes. Cause usually we had to, we always
10 pick him up and we do baby him as far as that goes.

11 DET. REUTHER: Console him and all that?

12 (A): Yeah.

13 DET. REUTHER: And try to, and that works?

14 (A): Yeah, that always worked.

15 DET. REUTHER: Alright.

16 (A): Yeah, he wasn't, it wasn't like a um, you know how
17 some kids will be "RAHH" you know, that type of thing. He was
18 never like that, ever. Just wasn't.

19 DET. REUTHER: Is there, was there any point during the day
20 where [REDACTED] got hurt, maybe had a accident, got injured in some
21 way and maybe-maybe it's something that you were afraid to tell
22 Michelle, maybe it's something that you-you-you didn't wanna tell
23 us or?

24 (A): I wasn't even with Michelle, he wasn't even with me in
25 the morning, he was with Michelle until I got home from church.

1 DET. REUTHER: Yeah.

2 (A): So he wasn't even with me.

3 DET. DANGELO: But, how-how about recently? Let's go back
4 within a week or so. Has he had any unusual incidents, has he
5 got hurt, has he fell any harder than normal uh?

6 (A): During the week that, I feel bad saying this, but
7 they're not with us a whole lot because we get up, we're all out
8 of the house by usually like 6:20, 6:30.

9 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

10 (A): We're completely gone cause everybody's got to get to
11 work and school and then I pick 'em up I'm usually home around
12 4:00, 4:30 and then you know it's bath, dinner and you know play
13 for fifteen, twenty minutes and on Monday's um, the girls have
14 CCD.

15 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

16 (A): So that takes up, away from us. Tuesday, they been
17 having the uh, the therapist for Nydia come over, so there's
18 somebody there Tuesday. Wednesday, the girls have dance. And
19 Thursday they have their visit. So Thursday's a late night for
20 them as far as--

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

22 (A): Cause they usually don't get home until like around
23 5:30ish.

24 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

25 (A): 6 o'clock.

1 DET. DANGELO: He wasn't--

2 (A): But he wasn't--

3 DET. DANGELO: Complaining about anything during the week?

4 (A): The lips uh--

5 DET. DANGELO: Besides the lips and the blisters?

6 (A): No.

7 DET. DANGELO: (Indiscernible).

8 (A): I mean not like for example you know, if somebody was
9 hurting you-you they would grab their side or maybe their leg or
10 something like that, he was not, no.

11 DET. DANGELO: Thursday's visits are supervised with
12 biological parents?

13 (A): Uh, yeah with biological mom and they have a
14 transporter back.

15 DET. DANGELO: Who are they supervised by?

16 (A): The transporter.

17 DET. DANGELO: Okay. He came home, [REDACTED] came home that
18 night there was no issues?

19 (A): No.

20 DET. DANGELO: With any of 'em?

21 (A): Not that I'm aware of, no. No.

22 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

23 (A): U-cause usually at that point in time, cause it is so
24 late, first thing we ask 'em, did you eat dinner?

25 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

1 (A): In which they have to eat this time. Um, Nydia said
2 yeah we had rice and beans and, chicken, rice and beans. So then
3 what we did was um, it's okay baby go take your shower, that type
4 of thing.

5 DET. DANGELO: And again, Sunday in the morning, Michelle--

6 (A): Was in--

7 DET. DANGELO: Was in care and custody and Michelle leaves
8 around 1:30 and then you're in the care and custody of [REDACTED]

9 (A): Right.

10 DET. DANGELO: In the afternoon? No one else came over to
11 the house?

12 (A): No.

13 DET. DANGELO: Um, there was no other children in the house?

14 (A): Just--

15 DET. DANGELO: That woulda been playing with [REDACTED] at that
16 time?

17 (A): Just Ethan, yeah.

18 DET. DANGELO: Just Ethan which is, obviously he's not ready
19 to--

20 (A): Right, exactly.

21 DET. DANGELO: To really get up and go.

22 DET. REUTHER: Um, did Michelle ever tell you that while she
23 was watching him that something happened, or he had an accident
24 or he's--

25 (A): No. She said he had a great morning, that they were

1 pla-like I said they were playing, he helped her with the laundry
2 um, that was pretty much about it. His demeanor seemed to be,
3 like I said really picking up so we were very happy about that.

4 DET. REUTHER: Sure.

5 (A): So.

6 DET. REUTHER: Okay.

7 (A): Same thing as school um, they had said prior to his
8 lips getting all messed up and everything.

9 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

10 (A): Um, he was startin' to come around and just playing
11 typical uh, like two year old behavior, taking his shoes off you
12 know, things of that nature. So that was a good, actually a good
13 thing. Um, we had him in speech at LaPetite.

14 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

15 (A): Um, because the family that had him before us they
16 would carry him, they he didn't go to school. Um, she was a stay
17 at home mom, so she would carry him everywhere. And we're like
18 you know, baby your, you gotta walk.

19 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

20 (A): You know so.

21 DET. REUTHER: If [REDACTED] fell down or got hurt in some way
22 or had an accident, how would he act? How would he react to-to
23 that?

24 (A): Depending on how hard he fell. That's how we you
25 know.

475

1 DET. REUTHER: Take me through. Like worse case and then--

2 (A): Okay.

3 DET. REUTHER: Minor.

4 (A): The worst case, he would, he would-he would cry.

5 DET. REUTEHR: Um-huh.

6 (A): And we would pick him up and console him. You know,
7 there was like a couple times he drew blood on his lip.

8 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

9 (A): You know, then we-we would say okay, and we'd put like
10 maybe a damp washcloth or um, papertowel or somethin' on his lips
11 or whatever. Sometimes boo-boo ice, we have boo-boo ice. Um,
12 typical, a small little fall he would just get back up on his
13 own. You know sometimes if he fell, be right there, [REDACTED] you
14 okay, that type of thing, but nothing, most of his falls
15 obviously weren't that severe.

16 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

17 (A): You know they were just the typical, okay.

18 DET. DANGELO: Get back up, brush it off.

19 (A): Yeah, exactly.

20 DET. DANGELO: And just keep playing.

21 (A): Keep going, yeah exactly.

22 DET. REUTHER: Um, did he act like any of that, that day?
23 Did-did he have any, did he give you any of those reasons or any
24 of those symptoms that he had fallen or gotten hurt or anything
25 that day?

1 (A): No. Because when I got home, like I said we pretty
2 much had lunch and then got 'em ready for their nap.

3 DET. REUTHER: Okay.

4 (A): So there wasn't anything for me to really examine.
5 And like I said I was taking care of my Fantasy Football stuff.

6 DET. REUTHER: Sure.

7 (A): I really.

8 DET. DANGELO: Do you understand the nature of an autopsy?
9 What it's worth?

10 (A): Just that, I, from what I understand to try to
11 determine.

12 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

13 (A): Cause of death basically.

14 DET. DANGELO: You contacted Bill Miller uh.

15 (A): Yesterday..

16 DET. DANGELO: Yesterday?

17 (A): Yeah.

18 DET. DANGELO: Um, what was your reason for contacting him?

19 (A): I, when I called the hospital um, to find out what we
20 needed to do next.

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

22 (A): What was our next step. They said oh, he's not here
23 you need to contact, now they didn't tell me Bill Miller.

24 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

25 (A): You need, you need to contact the medical examiner of

1 St. Lucie County.

2 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

3 (A): She gave, she said if you research or google the
4 number, so I googled it in front of her, she goes "Yes, that
5 would be it." That and that was why. Just to see what we were
6 supposed to do next.

7 DET. DANGELO: Did he provide you with any information?

8 (A): Um, he did say something to the effect of, but he said
9 the mou-like the little mouth to mouth that Michelle did.

10 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

11 (A): Probably helped [REDACTED] out even though 9-1-1 told us
12 not to. And he-he used a term um, but basically that he was
13 pretty much dying.

14 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh. Did you ask him any specific
15 questions when you spoke with him? Regarding the-the

16 (A): Well I wanted to know if he knew what had happened,
17 but he, I don't think he had the body yet.

18 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

19 (A): I don't think he, or maybe he did but he did, I know
20 he hadn't like worked on him yet.

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh. And that was Monday?

22 (A): Yeah, that was just (Indiscernible).

23 DET. DANGELO: Okay. And you tried to contact him again
24 today?

25 (A): Yeah, cause he told me he said you can call me back

1 tomorrow.

2 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh, okay.

3 (A): Um, around 3 o'clock and I should have the information
4 for you.

5 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, the make of the autopsy is to
6 reveal the cause and the manner in which someone--

7 (A): What do you mean cause and manner?

8 DET. DANGELO: The cause of death and the manner--

9 (A): Oh okay.

10 DET. DANGELO: Of what happened.

11 (A): Um-huh.

12 DET. DANGELO: And why.

13 (A): Okay.

14 DET. DANGELO: Um, and today, this morning um, there was an
15 autopsy conducted on [REDACTED]

16 (A): Right.

17 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, some of the findings um, with what
18 was done.

19 (A): Um-huh.

20 DET. DANGELO: Um, are quite concerning.

21 (A): Okay.

22 DET. DANGELO: To me.

23 (A): Okay.

24 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, and some of those things I wanna
25 talk about.

1 (A): Okay.

2 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, something I wanna show you okay
3 uh.

4 DET. REUTHER: We didn't show Michelle this um, just so you
5 know.

6 (A): Okay.

7 DET. DANGELO: But that's a picture of [REDACTED] liver.

8 (A): OHHH. Okay.

9 DET. DANGELO: Uh-kay. That-that, that is a severe
10 laceration to the rear portion of his liver.

11 (A): To, okay that's the rear obviously then.

12 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

13 (A): Okay.

14 DET. DANGELO: It's actually turned upside down to show the
15 (Indiscernible).

16 (A): Now, I'm where would the liver be in the body?

17 DET. DANGELO: Right here (and demonstrates).

18 (A): Okay.

19 DET. DANGELO: This back side.

20 (A): Okay.

21 DET. DANGELO: Um-kay. That's where it's gonna be.

22 (A): Okay.

23 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Underneath the abdomen. Rear side
24 facing to the back.

25 (A): Is this infected? I mean what

1 DET. DANGELO: No.

2 (A): What would cause?

3 DET. DANGELO: That-that-that Mr. Beer is not done by any
4 type of infection.

5 (A): Okay.

6 DET. DANGELO: Any type of medical malformation.

7 (A): Okay.

8 DET. DANGELO: Okay. That's blunt force trauma.

9 (A): Blunt force, okay what's blunt force trauma?

10 DET. DANGELO: Blunt force trauma, that's somebody striking

11 [REDACTED]

12 (A): [REDACTED] Okay.

13 DET. DANGELO: That's how that happened.

14 (A): Okay.

15 DET. DANGELO: Okay. You're not gonna receive a laceration
16 from that.

17 (A): Wow.

18 DET. DANGELO: Even through CPR okay, that traumatic injury.

19 (A): Right. Holy crap, that's crazy. So did Bill--

20 DET. DANGELO: So my-my-my-my question is looking at that,
21 okay.

22 (A): Yeah.

23 DET. DANGELO: How did that happen?

24 (A): Well, that's I don't know. Looking at that, I
25 wouldn't know. I'm not a medical expert um, like I said when I

1 got to him he, the only thing I was concerned about was his lips
2 and that's what--

3 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

4 (A): Brought me to basically panic and freak out. I
5 wouldn't have even thought about his liver, now I did hear in the
6 di-in the hospital.

7 DET. DANGELO: But it just wasn't his liver. His kidneys
8 were bruised.

9 (A): Wow.

10 DET. DANGELO: His gall bladder-gall bladder was bruised.

11 (A): Do you have some--

12 DET. DANGELO: Some bruising on the inner lining of his rib
13 cage, his stomach. Okay, again a lot of that is from trauma. Is
14 from force.

15 (A): I don't know how he would've gotten anything like
16 that. Not from, I mean even if he fell out of the bed, he's not
17 gettin' anything like that. I mean--

18 DET. DANGELO: Right.

19 (A): You saw how high the bed was.

20 DET. DANGELO: Right.

21 (A): The bed was like a foot and a half.

22 DET. DANGELO: This is gonna take a very, very short amount
23 of time for a two year old to have internal bleeding.

24 (A): Okay.

25 DET. DANGELO: Okay. And there was a tremendous amount of

1 blood in his abdomen.

2 (A): Okay.

3 DET. DANGELO: Cause-cause we already ruled out CPR.

4 (A): Okay.

5 DET. DANGELO: As having anything done.

6 DET. REUTHER: Cause those are questions we asked the
7 medical professional.

8 (A): Right. No, okay.

9 DET. REUTHER: Alright, so-so-so we-we addressed, we
10 addressed that. We addressed infection right?

11 (A): Um-huh.

12 DET. REUTHER: You asked if that, cause that was the first
13 thing right?

14 (A): Okay.

15 DET. REUTHER: It's not infection. Um--

16 DET. DANGELO: The only logical course is something
17 happening to [REDACTED] He wasn't involved in a car accident?

18 (A): Nope.

19 DET. DANGELO: Kay. He wasn't jumping off the bed?

20 (A): Nope.

21 DET. DANGELO: And hit something. Okay, he wasn't jumping
22 off the couch?

23 (A): Okay.

24 DET. DANGELO: Okay. His eighteen month old brother didn't
25 jump on him?

1 (A): Right. Nope.

2 DET. DANGELO: Gabby being nine years old wasn't even home?

3 (A): None of it.

4 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

5 (A): None of it.

6 DET. DANGELO: So how does that happen?

7 (A): I don't know. Because again I'm not a medical expert,
8 all I know is when I went--

9 DET. DANGELO: But I'm telling you, I'm telling you how it
10 would occur.

11 (A): Okay, right, okay. Your saying some trauma or force.

12 DET. DANGELO: No that-that is, (Indiscernible).

13 (A): Right. No obviously that, I mean you're asking me
14 like I should know how that would happen.

15 DET. DANGELO: Cause you're the only one that was home. You
16 were with him at the time.

17 (A): I wasn't with him at the time.

18 DET. DANGELO: The time frame that this would have occurred.

19 (A): Um-huh.

20 DET. DANGELO: Speaking with the medical examiner.

21 (A): Um-huh.

22 DET. DANGELO: The doctor. That's the time that you
23 would've been home.

24 (A): Okay. Well.

25 DET. DANGELO: Even better yet, that's almost like a punch

1 or a kick.

2 DET. REUTHER: Fourteen minutes I think is what they've said
3 is, fourteen minutes to bleed out from a tear that bad in the
4 liver.

5 (A): Well, there's nothing with us because like I said,
6 when I got to him he was laying down whimpering, but I change
7 Ethan first. Now aft-with all of this, that's something new. So
8 what you're asking me is--

9 DET. DANGELO: I'll-I'll take it one step farther.

10 (A): Okay.

11 DET. DANGELO: You said you briefly could recall his face.

12 (A): Um-huh.

13 DET. DANGELO: Okay. And you didn't see any blood from the
14 mouth, the ears, the nose.

15 (A): Right.

16 DET. DANGELO: Okay, but and-and I'll show you this. Okay,
17 so here's his bed.

18 (A): Um-huh.

19 DET. DANGELO: Okay. And you said he was laying here.
20 Here's four tiles, okay those tiles, okay. Here's another tile.
21 Why-why would we find blood splatter on these tiles? Why am I
22 finding blood on the changing table, on the corner of the
23 changing table? Now there was no blood in his stool, there was
24 no blood in Ethan's stool. He didn't have any blood from his
25 mouth.

1 (A): Right from his mouth or his nose.

2 DET. DANGELO: His nose.

3 (A): Nope.

4 DET. DANGELO: His eyes, his ears.

5 (A): Now--

6 DET. DANGELO: He wasn't cut, there was not cuts on his
7 arms, his legs, his hands, his feet?

8 (A): Right. Now you're asking about on the changing
9 station. I don't, I mean that I don't know. Is it [REDACTED]
10 blood?

11 DET. DANGELO: We'll-we'll send that to the lab.

12 (A): Right. Okay.

13 DET. DANGELO: But my point being that there was blood now
14 found on the floor.

15 (A): Okay. Was it [REDACTED] (Indiscernible).

16 DET. DANGELO: Less than-less than twenty four house after
17 this happened.

18 (A): What I'm saying-I'm saying, was it-was it [REDACTED]
19 blood though?

20 DET. DANGELO: That I-I can't tell you yes or no.

21 (A): Okay.

22 DET. DANGELO: Because that blood hasn't been sent to the
23 lab yet.

24 (A): Okay.

25 DET. DANGELO: But if we take all surrounding circumstances.

1 (A): No and I understand what you're saying.

2 DET. DANGELO: I-I-I would think it would be.

3 (A): Okay. But I didn't see any blood coming from his ears
4 or his mouth.

5 DET. ANGELO: I guess that's another question too.

6 (A): Because and even when Michelle got home, he-he was had
7 no blood coming out there. When the mech uh, paramedics came and
8 got him, there was no blood there.

9 DET. DANGELO: There's no other explanation that we have for
10 that.

11 (A): Well there was nothing done--

12 DET. DANGELO: Is there any trauma done to a two year old
13 boy?

14 (A): Well, there's nothing on there that I caused or
15 anything of that nature. That was my son. I loved him like my
16 son, just like I loved every kid that has ever come into our
17 care.

18 DET. DANGELO: I'm not doubting that.

19 (A): Okay.

20 DET. DANGELO: You know--

21 (A): That's why I asked you know, is there-is there some
22 possible way that we can explain how this happened as far as-as
23 far as an accident? I don't think you're the type of person who
24 just came up and-and-and started hurting uh, [REDACTED] um, you said
25 he was on the floor. Is there a chance you stepped on him? Is

1 there a chance--

2 (A): No.

3 DET. REUTHER: At some point--

4 (A): No.

5 DET. REUTHER: You know cause then that-that--

6 (A): No.

7 DET. REUTHER: Would be like a logical explanation like,
8 okay, that-that makes sense.

9 (A): No.

10 DET. REUTHER: Now we know why-why [REDACTED] had this injury.

11 (A): No. Never stepped on him. I--

12 DET. REUTHER: Not even going into the room?

13 (A): Nope. Because he wasn't there, he wasn't in my room,
14 my walkway.

15 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

16 (A): Like I said, I didn't pay much attention to him other
17 than to tell him, [REDACTED] you need to stand up." Or you can go
18 play or whatever it was, you can go play daddy'll change your
19 diaper in a little bit. Cause that's usually what I do after his
20 nap, I usually change his diaper. But I was changing Ethan's
21 diaper.

22 DET. REUTHER: What do you think happened to [REDACTED]?

23 (A): I don't know. I'm not a medical person, but whatever
24 that, I mean if that being his liver, that's not good and that's
25 very concerning to me. As I'm sure you.

1 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

2 (A): You know, so that bothers me. But what happened to
3 him? I don't know.

4 DET. REUTHER: You know it-it--

5 (A): This is why we were looking for answers.

6 DET. DANGELO: He was sleeping. That's not gonna happen
7 from him just falling asleep and then waking up.

8 (A): I-I understand that.

9 DET. DANGELO: And-and him laying on the floor logically you
10 know, that fall is not gonna do this severe of an injury.

11 (A): Okay.

12 DET. DANGELO: Uh-kay. And you have to look at all the
13 circumstances.

14 (A): Right.

15 DET. DANGELO: And then I think we went through 'em all,
16 something that possibly could have happened to him.

17 (A): Right.

18 DET. DANGELO: You know, he wasn't an aggressive kid, there
19 was not accidents.

20 (A): No.

21 DET. DANGELO: Nothing out of the ordinary?

22 (A): Nothing.

23 DET. DANGELO: This-this incident--

24 (A): Um-huh.

25 DET. DANGELO: Here, what we're talking about.

1 (A): Right.

2 DET. DANGELO: This laceration.

3 (A): Um-huh.

4 DET. DANGELO: He woulda been in severe pain.

5 (A): No he, but when I--

6 DET. DANGELO: What I'm telling you.

7 (A): Right no, of course absolutely.

8 DET. DANGELO: He would've been.

9 (A): Right.

10 DET. DANGELO: He would've woke up.

11 (A): Um-huh.

12 DET. DANGELO: Out of the blue, more than just whimpering.

13 (A): Right.

14 DET. DANGELO: He would've been in dire pain.

15 (A): Okay.

16 DET. DANGELO: And it-and it just wasn't there.

17 (A): Right. Nope, it was not there. When I walked through
18 the door to change Ethan, he was whimpering, but like I said all
19 I told him was [REDACTED], honey your nap times over you can go
20 play now. I'm gonna change Ethan." I changed Ethan and when I
21 turned around he was still on the floor, but he wasn't
22 whimpering. But that's when I noticed his lips and that's when I
23 called 9-1-1.

24 DET. REUTHER: Is it something that Michelle or-or Gabby
25 could've caused or-or could've--

1 (A): No.

2 DET. REUTHER: Seen or observed or--

3 (A): Gabby--

4 DET. REUTHER: Is it something that they, maybe they told
5 you, now that you're looking back your kinda puttin' it all
6 together. Is there something about that day that makes, that
7 this makes more sense to you?

8 (A) Uht-uh. Nope, cause she said he was a happy, he had
9 a happy morning. He helped her with the laundry and from what I,
10 and you know um, that-that's what they were trying to do cause
11 Sunday's laundry day or Saturday, whichever. And uh, push the
12 basket (Indiscernible). Now I don't know if she was with him the
13 whole time that he pushed the basket, but you're talking about a
14 wicker basket that's empty.

15 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

16 (A): That's not doing (Indiscernible).

17 DET. REUTHER: Uht-uh.

18 (A): So no, not at all.

19 DET. REUTHER: What we're trying to do is we're trying to
20 find that accident, we're trying to find some way to explain
21 this.

22 (A): Right.

23 DET. REUTHER: Because do you, cause the medical examiner
24 and I don't know if I'm-if I'm overstepping here so um--

25 DET. DANGELO: (Shakes his head no)

1 DET. REUTHER: The medical examiner is-is the expert as far
2 as--

3 (A): Sure.

4 DET. REUTHER: All things medical.

5 (A): Um-huh.

6 DET. REUTHER: The guy that we're talking about worked in
7 Miami-Dade in the eighties.

8 (A): Okay.

9 DET. REUTHER: He's somebody who's, who has written and-and
10 he's published and he's-he's been around for a long time.

11 (A): Okay.

12 DET. REUTHER: And he, and-and he said that there's no other
13 way to explain this other than that this is classified as a
14 homicide.

15 (A): Homicide?

16 DET. REUTHER: Yes. Do you know what that is?

17 (A): When, homicide is when I, one person kills another
18 person?

19 DET. REUTHER: Well, it's when somebody dies and-and we're
20 trying to figure out basically how or who caused that, this
21 injury.

22 (A): That night, right?

23 DET. REUTHER: Correct.

24 (A): Now that's not something that would linger on though,
25 correct?

1 DET. DANGELO: No.

2 (A): Okay.

3 DET. REUTHER: Uht-uh.

4 (A): Okay. No, I don't-I don't.

5 DET. DANGELO: This is quick. His exact words were "It was
6 acute."

7 (A): Okay.

8 DET. DANGELO: Meaning right then and there.

9 (A): Right, very quickly. Um-huh.

10 DET. DANGELO: And like-like we said, we're talking fourteen
11 minutes.

12 (A): Um-huh.

13 DET. DANGELO: Roughly, for-for a two year old.

14 (A): Right.

15 DET. REUTHER: The amount of blood that was in his abdomen.

16 (A): Uh-huh.

17 DET. REUTHER: The amount of blood that was in his chest.

18 (A): Okay.

19 DET. REUTHER: It all came out of this.

20 (A): I, do you have pictures of all that?

21 DET. DANGELO: Well, we do.

22 (A): Okay. But I mean that you could share or--

23 DET. DANGELO: No, this is--

24 (A): Okay.

25 DET. DANGELO: What's concerning to us.

1 (A): Because that's what caused everything else?

2 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

3 (A): Okay and that's his liver? So no, I mean I don't know
4 what to tell you, I don't want you're-you're looking for or what-
5 whatever but um, no there was nothing that happened that Sunday.
6 Michelle told me he had a great morning, he had a, and good
7 afternoon going into bed and everything and like I said, when I
8 changed Ethan, that's when everything started. End of story. I
9 mean until we got to the hospital.

10 DET. DANGELO: I know uh, De-Detective Reuther asked you,
11 but what-what do you think happened? What do you think--

12 (A): I don't know.

13 DET. DANGELO: Possibly could have happened to cause such an
14 injury?

15 (A): I don't know. But I don't think it was anything done,
16 I know it wasn't anything done by me, I don't think it was
17 anything done by my wife or my daughter.

18 DET DANGELO: Um-huh.

19 DET. REUTHER: They weren't even there right, so?

20 (A): No, at that time--

21 DET. REUTHER: That's why it's kinda--

22 (A): They were at Tutti-Frutti.

23 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

24 (A): And they have the receipts to show.

25 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

1 (A): That they were at Tutti-Frutti.

2 DET. REUTHER: Is there a point where-where maybe he's
3 acting, this is a really bad day, [REDACTED] is having a really-
4 really bad day, and he and-and-and maybe you're at a point to
5 where, cause this happens, as a parent this is something that's
6 very common.

7 (A): Um-huh.

8 DET. REUTHER: You get to a point where there's nothing that
9 you can do to reason with that child. Their two--

10 (A): No.

11 DET. REUTHER: Two years old--

12 (A): No.

13 DET. REUTHER: You-you've tried everything. Is there a
14 point where-where you just lost your temper?

15 (A): No, not at all. [REDACTED] was a very easy little boy,
16 so was Ethan. Not at all.

17 DET. DANGELO: Sometimes people do get frustrated.

18 (A): No, I-I understand, I understand that.

19 DET. DANGELO: (Indiscernible).

20 (A): Absolutely, that's human nature.

21 DET. REUTHER: And listen, that's part of being a parent.

22 (A): Um-huh.

23 DET. DANGELO: I have three small children at home.

24 (A): No, that's human nature.

25 DET. DANGELO: And I can tell you, there has been times

1 where I have blown my stack. Where I had to take a step--

2 (A): (Indiscernible).

3 DET. DANGELO: For a minute and go hey man, you know what
4 Chris, you better kinda--

5 (A): Right, walk away from the situation or whatever.

6 DET. DANGELO: Relax, act normal.

7 (A): Absolutely.

8 DET. DANGELO: Yeah, walk away, go outside take a deep
9 breath.

10 (A): Um-huh.

11 DET. DANGELO: Whatever the case may be. So it happens.

12 (A): No and I understand that. But no, that is not the
13 case with this. I don't know how that happened. So I'm very
14 interested to see what the-the blood, who's that was. And the
15 reason why I'm saying that because-because I do bite my nails, so
16 from time to time we will find my, but nothing again.

17 DET. DANGELO: Now I-I-I mean I'm gonna venture off and say
18 that that's--

19 (A): Okay, but I would like to know if it's [REDACTED]
20 blood. I do.

21 DET. DANGELO: Oh, you will.

22 (A): I do wanna know that.

23 DET. DANGELO: (Indiscernible) will bleed.

24 DET. REUTHER: Who else could it be I'm sorry I?

25 (A): Well, we all-we all live in the house at least I know.

1 I mean I don't know who.

2 DET. DANGELO: Does Ethan have any cuts on his body? Uh,
3 his hands anything?

4 (A): No, it-it that's not.

5 DET. DANGELO: Does Gabby?

6 (A): Um.

7 DET. DANGELO: Go in there and (Indiscernible)?

8 (A): Gabby sometimes maybe cause she--

9 DET. DANGELO: Any reason why there would be blood?

10 (A): No.

11 DET. DANGELO: Besides this incident?

12 (A): No-no.

13 DET. DANGELO: Why there would be blood on the floor?

14 (A): No-no. There should not be blood on the floor.

15 That's not the kind of family we are.

16 DET. REUTHER: Is there a chance that you were even holding
17 him and maybe he slipped or fell or some-something?

18 (A): Uth-uh.

19 DET. REUTHER: He just--

20 (A): Nope. When I was holding him--

21 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

22 (A): I was holding him, his-his legs were wrapped around
23 me.

24 DET. REUTHER: Right.

25 (A): And his left and his um,

1 DET. REUTHER: Just like a regular child.

2 (A): Um-huh. His head was like--

3 DET. DANGELO: Like your almost putting him to sleep?

4 (A): And his head was up. Yes! Exactly, that's exactly
5 right. Exactly right. And that's when I, and I was on the phone
6 with 9-1-1 and I took him, she said to me you know, calm down
7 whatever um, take-take him outside so the paramedics can see.

8 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

9 (A): And that's what we did, we picked him up.

10 DET. DANGELO: Do you remember maybe being so um, excited so
11 much adrenaline going that you squeezed him too hard on the way
12 out? Like your holding tight and-and it-it-it's by no means on
13 (Indiscernible), but that--

14 (A): No. I-I was holding him--

15 DET. DANGELO: It-it very well could happen depending on
16 your adrenaline.

17 (A): No, I--

18 DET. DANGELO: I mean obviously he's two, you're a lot
19 bigger than he is.

20 (A): Yeah. I no, not that, no not at all. Not that type,
21 as a matter of fact, when I was hold--when by the time Michelle
22 got home I was holding him facing forward.

23 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

24 (A): Um. And that's when and when she got home and then
25 literally within two minutes of her getting there, paramedics

1 were there.

2 DET. DANGELO: Has Michelle ever gotten angry? Have you
3 ever seen Michelle--

4 (A): At me, yeah (Laughing).

5 DET. DANGELO: Well, I'm married so I (Indiscernible) how
6 that works.

7 (A): But no.

8 DET. DANGELO: With the children has she ever gotten angry?

9 (A): More with the older girls.

10 DET. DANGELO: Um-kay.

11 (A): The-the older girls you know. Because their always
12 testing their boundaries.

13 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

14 (A): The-the boys are fantastic. There was no issues
15 really with the boys. Like I said you know, Ethan obviously he's
16 a baby, he's a baby. [REDACTED] same thing is [REDACTED], you would
17 tell [REDACTED] go to bed he would go to bed. Yeah, he would you
18 know cry about it, but he would go to bed. [REDACTED] come on baby
19 let's go brush our teeth. He, oh you know, mope about it or
20 whine about it, but he would go brush his teeth.

21 DET. DANGELO: But there was--

22 (A): Well.

23 DET. DANGELO: There was never a time that she got
24 (Indiscernible) with him?

25 (A): No! Uht-uh. Uht-uh. Not Michelle at all.

1 DET. DANGELO: And again, no time any of the other children?

2 (A): No. Nope.

3 DET. REUTHER: Gabby says that sometimes you get frustrated
4 with [REDACTED] What are some of the things you get frustrated
5 about?

6 (A): Um, for example with [REDACTED] if Michelle would say to
7 him "Daddy's gotta bathe you tonight."

8 DET. REUTHER: Um-kay.

9 (A): Well, instead of just coming along to get bathed, he
10 would wait, try to wait for Michelle to bathe him, like he
11 wouldn't want me to bathe him, for whatever reason.

12 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

13 (A): So I would say to him, "No [REDACTED] come on baby,
14 we're, we've got a lot to do." We'd have to either, I had to get
15 [REDACTED] Ethan bathed as well, that type of thing. Um, that type
16 of, that type of frustrated with him. Um, or if I would say to
17 him, "Come on baby we gotta go to school now" and he would sit
18 there with his car. And I'm like not [REDACTED] put the car down
19 we've gotta go to school. Daddy's gonna be late. That type of
20 thing. But that, like I said that's with all-all my kids, I'd
21 say the same thing. That's all my kids you know. "Come on
22 Gabby, stop playing around, no you can't wait till the shows
23 over."

24 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

25 (A): "You gotta turn off the T.V. now."

1 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

2 (A): That type of thing.

3 DET. REUTHER: Then what happens?

4 (A): What do you mean?

5 DET. REUTHER: Like when you, when you tell 'em like listen
6 you gotta do it this way?

7 (A): Usually they-they come.

8 DET. REUTHER: Wh-what about when they don't?

9 (A): Then I usually go turn the T.V. off. And I'm like
10 Gabby, I said now. We have to go.

11 DET. REUTHER: Alright. Um, Michelle said that you-you-
12 you've had teachable moments. What

13 (A): Yes, with the hands.

14 DET. REUTHER: What do you think she's referring to?

15 (A): With the hand, the whole hand thing.

16 DET. REUTHER: Okay.

17 (A): Where with-with [REDACTED] I would say, he was, he didn't
18 wanna clean up his, like his-his toys.

19 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

20 (A): He wanted everybody else to clean up his toys. So I
21 would say, she, I would tell him [REDACTED] here we, she would tell
22 me take his hand, put his hand over the toy and show him how to
23 pick it up and put it away (Indiscernible). He, I guess he
24 wasn't used to doing that from the other place where he'd been.

25 DET. DANGELO: How did you show him how to do it prior to

1 that?

2 (A): I would take, I would say [REDACTED] here you gotta do
3 this." She said no, you've gotta make him be the one that
4 actually does it because if not, he's never going to-to learn to
5 actually pick it up.

6 DET. DANGELO: Anything else um, any other situations that
7 taken place besides that?

8 DET. REUTHER: That were typical.

9 DET. DANGELO: Make you frustrated with him?

10 (A): No more than any other of the kids. You know just
11 the-the main thing was the clean up, cause with, like we said
12 yesterday, we apologized for our house. It seems like our house
13 is always cluttered and messy and none of the kids would wanna
14 clean. We always, we have to get Nydia and Gabby to clean up.
15 We're like girls can you please clean up for-for [REDACTED]

16 DET. DANGELO: Yeah.

17 (A): So, no. Because again during the week we didn't
18 really have 'em a whole lot. As far as in waking hours so to
19 speak.

20 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

21 (A): There was always a thing of school. We're, saw 'em
22 for maybe an hour in the morning, school. Then a couple of hours
23 at night and bedtime.

24 DET. DANGELO: And I don't wanna sound personal, but your
25 not on any type of medications right now for anything?

1 (A): No.

2 DET. DANGELO: Okay. You've never--

3 (A): I take well, I apologize. I have high blood, I have
4 blood pressure medicine and I take two Aleve for my back
5 everyday.

6 DET. DANGELO: Never been diagnosed with Bipolar?

7 (A): Oh, no-no-no.

8 DET. DANGELO: Paranoid Schizophrenia?

9 (A): (Laughing) no-no-no.

10 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

11 (A): And it doesn't run in my family or anything of that
12 nature.

13 DET. DANGELO: Okay. Um, I'm gonna step out for a minute.
14 Do you have to use the bathroom?

15 (A): No. I'm good.

16 DET. DANGELO: Want some more water?

17 (A): No. I'm good thanks.

18 DET. DANGELO: Okay. (Then, speaking to Det. Reuther) You
19 wanna step out with me?

20 DET. REUTHER: Yeah.

21 (A): Oh, you have coffee?

22 DET. REUTHER: Um--

23 (A): Oh, never mind.

24 DET. REUTHER: Yeah, the cost.

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DET. REUTHER: Hey Mike?

(A): Yeah?

DET. REUTHER: Um, we're a little short handed right now.

(A): Okay.

DET. REUTHER: Detective Dangelo's got something that he's gotta do right this second.

(A): Okay.

DET. REUTHER: It's only gonna take a few minutes. Are you okay right now?

(A): Yeah.

DET. REUTHER: Do you need water or something?

(A): Um, yeah I need more water.

DET. REUTHER: Yeah, of course I can.

(A): Thanks.

DET. REUTHER: Yeah-yeah. You um, otherwise your good?

(A): Yeah, I'm fine..

DET. REUTHER: Alright.

(A): Just let Michelle know um, I guess it's gonna be a few more minutes?

DET. REUTHER: Yeah, it we'll, okay, yeah absolutely.

(A): You're saying it will be what?

DET. REUTHER: That, pro-probably ten, fifteen, I don't

1 know, I don't wanna, I don't wanna say you know, cause if I tell
2 you one thing you're gonna.

3 (A): Only because I know that (Indiscernible) won't come
4 back.

5 DET. REUTHER: Alright.

6 (A): Alright.

7 DET. REUTHER: We'll-we'll let 'em know.

8 (A): Thanks.

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13 DET. REUTHER: When budget cuts hit a couple years ago.

14 (A): (Laughing).

15 DET. REUTHER: They took out our water coolers (hands
16 Michael Beer the glass of water).

17 (A): Thanks.

18 DET. REUTHER: And we have a water cooler again so things
19 must be going up.

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25 DET. REUTHER: Whatcha doin' Mike?

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1 (A): I just wanna use the bathroom.

2 DET. REUTHER: Alright go ahead no problem. You know where
3 it is right?

4 (A): Yeah-yeah.

5 DET. REUTHER: Yeah, no problem.

6

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8 (A): That's too funny.

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15 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: What's up buddy?

16 (A): Oh, just waiting to see what's going on.

17 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Their coming right back. You need
18 a drink of water or anything?

19 (A): No, I've got water I just wanted to know what's going
20 on.

21 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Yeah, they'll be back in just a
22 couple minutes alright?

23 (A): Um-huh.

24 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Hopefully um, kinda like I said
25 their short staffed and we're running around crazy so.

1 (A): That's fine.

2 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Alright buddy?

3 (A): Yeah that's fine.

4 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Alright sit tight?

5

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8 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Good?

9 (A) (Indiscernible)

10 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Like no-no water or nothing right?

11 (A): Oh, no-no-no. It's like I was tired.

12 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Okay, I just wanna make sure cause
13 I know I didn't ask you about water and.

14 (A): Yeah, no you did. I think you did.

15 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Okay. Alright I just wanted to
16 make sure.

17 (A): You know, I'm just tired. Michelle and Gabby are okay
18 downstairs?

19 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Yeah. Actually they went to get
20 something to eat and they, they're on their way back.

21 (A): Oh.

22 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Yeah, they're downstairs uh, she
23 went to grab somein' to eat.

24 (A): Okay.

25 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Cause she said it was getting late

1 for Gabby to eat so she wanted to make sure she fed her. So
2 that's all good.

3 (A): Okay. Thank you.

4 UNIDENTIFIED DETECTIVE: Okay? Alright buddy no problem.

5 (A): Thanks. ^
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13 (A): Can I use the restroom?

14 DET. DANGELO: Um, we're gonna be leaving here.

15 (A): Okay.

16 DET. DANGELO: Real quick um, so on the way out.

17 (A): Okay.

18 DET. DANGELO: That's when you can use the restroom. Um, so
19 we talked about a lot of things tonight.

20 (A): Yeah, I you know.

21 DET. DANGELO: Kind of a whirlwind, huh?

22 (A): She's asking me for lack of a a better term,
23 information that I can't give her.

24 DET. DANGELO: Um-huh.

25 (A): I understand her upsetness and-and frustration, but I

1 can't give her answers I don't have. Same thing I'm giving you
2 and same thing I'm giving you (looking to each detective) and I'd
3 give whomever. I can't give you, I did nothing to that baby.
4 Other than when I went in and I changed Ethan's diaper. I saw
5 him on the floor. Now she's telling me there's blood splatter.
6 I'm like since Sunday, you and I have both been in that room. I
7 didn't see any blood.

8 DET. DANGELO: You know what the realization is-is that
9 something tragic happened.

10 (A): That-that uh, that's obvious.

11 DET. DANGELO: And the only one who was there, that was you.

12 (A): Ab, right.

13 DET. DANGELO: You.

14 (A): She's saying there's fourteen minutes that passed.

15 DET. DANGELO: I, the fourteen minutes is the time um,
16 correct me if I'm wrong, that a child would have from the
17 laceration of the liver to the time the blood filling up, the
18 amount of blood filling up in the child's stomach.

19 (A): Right.

20 DET. DANGELO: To the time that would've been.

21 DET. REUTHER: For the time frame that we were given.

22 (A): Right.

23 DET. DANGELO: Incoherent so to speak.

24 (A): Right.

25 DET. DANGELO: We're talking fourteen minutes.

1 (A): Okay.

2 DET. DANGELO: Okay. So we're startin' to narrowing that-
3 that group of time.

4 (A): Right.

5 DET. DANGELO: Okay. So put it this way, it wouldn't have
6 happened at ten o'clock and then at 2:30 that would've happened.

7 (A): Right.

8 DET. DANGELO: Okay.

9 (A): Right.

10 DET. DANGELO: Um, that's my best example I can give.

11 (A): No-no, I understand that.

12 DET. DANGELO: Um, and I think your wife made a good point
13 that evidence doesn't lie.

14 (A): No, I know.

15 DET. DANGELO: Okay. A medical professional whose been
16 doing it gosh, almost forty years.

17 (A): I'm no--

18 DET. DANGELO: You know it's his professional opinion.

19 (A): Right.

20 DET. DANGELO: You know and we have it here, we saw it. We
21 showed it to you.

22 (A): (Sounds like he says) It's in the pictures, yeah.

23 DET. DANGELO: You know and-and the only one there was you.
24 There was nobody else but you.

25 (A): Right.

1 DET. DANGELO: It couldn't have happened at any other time
2 besides you being there.

3 (A): Well

4 DET. DANGELO: He didn't have a, an accident.

5 (A): Nope.

6 DET. DANGELO: He didn't have a traumatic experience.

7 (A): Nope.

8 DET. DANGELO: And he wasn't jumping on the bed.

9 (A): Nope.

10 DET. DANGELO: He wasn't jumping off the couch.

11 (A): Nope.

12 DET. DANGELO: Nobody jumped on him.

13 (A): Nope.

14 DET. DANGELO: Um-kay.

15 DET. REUTHER: No one accidentally stepped on him, no one
16 accidentally, I mean that's the logical thing to me, like if I
17 can't you know, and-and none of that happened?

18 (A): No. None of that happened.

19 DET. REUTHER: He didn't die from swallowing something. You
20 know what I mean like?

21 (A) Right, no I.

22 DET. REUTHER: He didn't choke.

23 (A): Right, right.

24 DET. REUTHER: He didn't die because he had an infection.

25 (A): Right.

1 DET. REUTHER: He didn't die because it was a car accident.

2 (A): Right, no I understand that.

3 DET. REUTHER: Um, he died because while he was in your care

4 (A): My care.

5 DET. REUTHER: His liver was like severed in half. And it
6 wasn't just the liver it was other.

7 (A): Right, that's yeah.

8 DET. REUTHER: It was other organs as well.

9 (A): Um-huh.

10 DET. REUTHER: And-and we've got no way to explain it your
11 saying?

12 (A): Because when I took Ethan into the bedroom and I heard
13 him whimpering, and I'm repeating literally the same thing over
14 and over. But she's expecting me to pull out some miracle like
15 that something that I know. She keeps mentioning the same thing,
16 those fourteen minutes. I said I was, like I do every Sunday, I
17 was watching football. That's what I was doing. So it, the
18 difference was I had Ethan with me. If she were home usually
19 during the football game she watches Ethan. That's the
20 difference.

21 DET. REUTHER: Um-huh.

22 DET. DANGELO: Welp, I don't know I guess it just doesn't
23 sit well with me.

24 (A): No, and I understand that.

25 DET. DANGELO: Um, and it doesn't. Cause you can't explain

1 with you being the only one there, that child would've been in
2 severe pain. [REDACTED] would've been in severe pain and you
3 would've known.

4 (A): Right.

5 DET. DANGELO: Okay, but you're saying that he was fine. He
6 was fine prior to him going to sleep. He was fine all day.

7 (A): Yeah.

8 DET. DANGELO: And I'm not sure if you understand the
9 severity of why we're talking to you.

10 (A): No, I-I-I think I do.

11 DET. DANGELO: Okay, because the medical examiner is ruling
12 it a homicide.

13 (A): Um-huh.

14 DET. DANGELO: There's only one logical person responsible
15 for that.

16 (A): Okay.

17 DET. DANGELO: And I'm lookin' at him. It's not him, it's
18 not me.

19 (A): Um-huh.

20 DET. DANGELO: It's not your wife.

21 (A): I know that.

22 DET. DANGELO: It's you.

23 (A): Okay.

24 DET. DANGELO: I want you to understand.

25 (A): No. I-I that's why I said--

1 DET. DANGELO: You-you-you are going home tonight, okay?

2 But you'll see us again in a few days.

3 (A): I need legal representation.

4 DET. DANGELO: And that's fine.

5 (A): Right and I know that.

6 DET. DANGELO: That's fine. Now if you're asking me if I
7 think you need it, that's your choice.

8 (A): No-no-no-no-no-no. No I know, not at all, not at all.

9 DET. DANGELO: But I want you to understand the severity.

10 (A): Obviously. Yeah.

11 DET. DANGELO: We'll be talking again.

12 (A): Okay.

13 DET. DANGELO: Real soon.

14 (A): Okay.

15 DET. DANGELO: K

16 (A): Yeah.

17 DET. REUTHER: Do you have your keys?

18 (A): I do.

19 DET. REUTHER: Alright good. Well then we're all set here.

20 DET. DANGELO: Let's go.

21 DET. REUTHER: You said you needed to use the bathroom
22 right?

23 (A): I just need to use the restroom yes.

24 DET. DANGELO: Absolutely.

25

1 I, ALICE L. CRUMP, hereby certify that I transcribed the
2 interview of Michael Beer, contained in the preceding pages
3 numbered 2 through 77 inclusive, and that the transcription
4 constitutes, to the best of my ability, a true record of the
5 interview taken from an electronic recording.

6
7 Alice L. Crump
8 ALICE L. CRUMP

9
10 STATE OF FLORIDA

11 COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

12 SWORN to and subscribed before me on the 11th day of
13 December 2014, by ALICE L. CRUMP, who is personally known to
14 me and who did take an oath.

15 Judith Resendiz
16 Notary Public, State of Florida
17 At Large
18 My commission expires:
19

